

# Simple Gifts

## Donors Fund the Future of Shaker Landing: The Impact One Year Later

For more than 40 years, Shaker Landing was a cherished spot where guests boarded the Dixie Belle riverboat to explore the Kentucky River. Many of you have shared memories of birthdays, reunions, weddings and even memorials aboard the riverboat. It wasn't just a boat—it was a place where special moments happened.

When the Dixie Belle retired in 2022, we knew we had to honor the countless memories made on board. Thanks to the generosity of two visionary donors, we revitalized Shaker Landing by restoring the 1866 Timber Frame Stable and permanently dry-docking the riverboat at the river's edge. Our hope is that this site will continue to create new memories through events like concerts, school field trips and weddings.

This summer marked the riverboat's inaugural season in her new home, and it has been an exciting one! A local Cub Scout troop enjoyed an overnight adventure by the river—an experience they will remember for a lifetime. We also partnered with Adventure Theatre Kentucky to present a unique outdoor theater experience, using the riverboat as a stage.

Additionally, Shaker Landing was the perfect setting this summer for a romantic dinner during our Couples Retreat. This fall, we will host our first wedding at the revitalized venue—a lovely evening under the stars, creating new memories in a beautiful setting.

We are excited to share the progress made at Shaker Landing, a transformation that reflects the power of community and a shared commitment to preserving our heritage. We invite you to visit soon and experience how this special place has transformed for future generations to discover.



Book your Shaker Landing  
event experience by contacting  
our Event Sales Team.

eventsales@shakervillageky.org  
859.734.1576





# Donors Help the Preserve Spread Its Wings

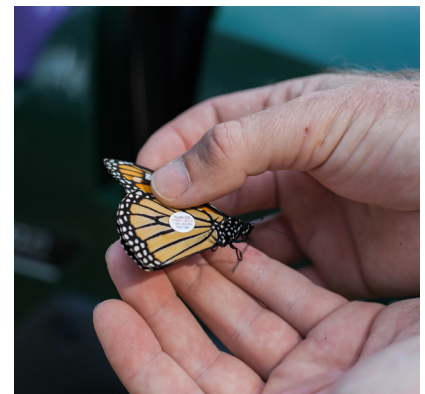
If you've followed the Preserve's journey, you'll remember our early focus on creating a sanctuary for Northern Bobwhite Quail and other grassland birds. By planting native species that attracted essential insects, we provided the food these birds needed to thrive. Watching the quail population prosper was a rewarding validation of our approach – and of your generosity which makes our work possible.

Today, we use this same strategy to help promote a rich mosaic of habitats for large mammals, songbirds, and insects. We measure our success by studying populations like the 100+ species of butterfly that call Kentucky home.

Did you know most butterflies and moths rely on specific plants to reproduce? The Monarch butterfly, for example, can't survive without milkweed for its caterpillars. Similarly, Fritillary butterflies need violets, and Giant Swallowtails rely on hoptree or prickly ash. Other species, like the Great Purple Hairstreak and Red-Banded Hairstreak, have even more specific needs.

We make our habitat management decisions with these intricate relationships in mind and devote significant effort to controlling invasive species to allow a broader diversity of native plants the space to thrive. We also prioritize plants like oaks, which alone can support more than 400 species of butterflies and moths in our area.

As the saying goes, "If you build it, they will come." Our goal isn't just to establish these habitats but to sustain and enhance them so that the flora and fauna historically found here can continue to flourish. This requires a long-term commitment from land managers, neighbors, guests, volunteers and supporters like you.



Thanks to a generous donor, we have six new benches out on the Preserve (with more to come)! Enjoy them on your next hike along our 30.5-mile trail system.



Our friends from The *Lee and Hayley Show* visited the Preserve to catch, ID and release butterflies.

Watch the segment to see how they did.



## Not So Simple Sashes & Sills

During her stay at Shaker Village last year, Deb Miller noticed the windows in the West Family Sisters' Shop needed repair. Gaps between the glass and wood sash were letting in outside air, making it difficult to regulate the room's temperature. With her background in historic preservation, Miller shared, "I saw the building's windows were in need of rehabilitation, and my brain started clicking on the idea of making a donation." After breakfast during her stay, she asked The Trustees' Table Hostess to connect her with someone to discuss the project further. Miller then generously donated shares of stock to fund the rehabilitation.

Work began to repair 78 window sashes earlier this year, with the Village's team of carpenters, painters and maintenance staff working together. To begin, the team referred to the Historic American Buildings Survey, measured drawings and historical reports for architectural information. They identified existing and original construction details to reproduce the window jams and sills as accurately to the Shaker's work as possible.

Carpenter Robert Brown took on the challenge of leading the window repairs – a task that was not easy since every window frame in the entire Village is slightly different. While new sashes had to be made, some of the original 200-year-old sills were saved with repairs.



Watch the specialized epoxy method used to repair damaged poplar wood on the historic window sills.

While the team maintains historical integrity by using the same joinery methods that the Shakers would have used to construct the sashes, there is some modernity in play. Electric and pneumatic tooling is used in the shop which saves a lot of time. Carpenter Terry Cowart said, "I'm glad I don't know how long it took one of my Shaker Brethren to build a sash. I'm certain I would be humbled."

All this amazing work began by having one simple conversation. The next time you visit the Village take a closer look at the windows. We hope you notice that something as seemingly simple as a window requires a lot of care and attention to maintain it for more than 200 years.



# EVENTS TO ENGAGE

MUSIC ON THE LAWN  
Fri-Sat Evenings | May-Oct

SPIRIT STROLLS  
Fri-Sat Evenings | Sept-Oct

HARVEST FEST  
Sept 28-29 | Sponsored by Lexington Clinic

SPOOKY STAND UP PADDLE  
Oct 13

TRICK-OR-TREAT  
Oct 18-19 | Sponsored by Accuprint

EQUINE FESTIVAL  
Nov 2

CHRISTMAS MARKET  
Nov 16

FRESH FOOD ADVENTURE: QUAIL DINNER  
Nov 16

HOLIDAY COOKIE DECORATING WORKSHOP  
Dec 7 & 14

ILLUMINATED EVENINGS  
Dec 7, 14 & 21

Learn more at [shakervillageky.org/event-calendar](https://shakervillageky.org/event-calendar)



**SHAKER  
VILLAGE**

Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill  
3501 Lexington Road  
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## How Can You Help?

### Visit

Explore daily adventures, guided tours, exhibitions and 30 miles of hiking and riding trails.

### Stay, Dine & Shop

The Shakers were known for their hospitality. We carry forward this tradition at The Inn, The Trustees' Table and The Shops.

### Volunteer

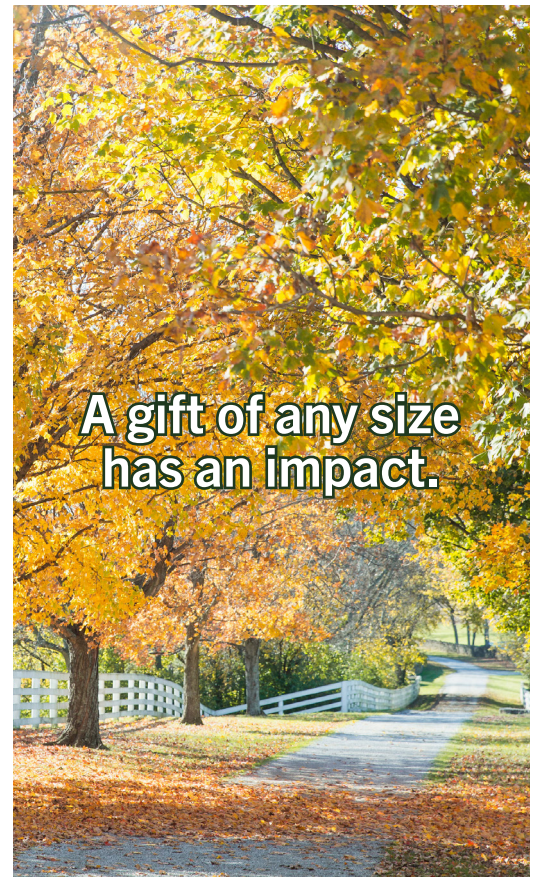
Sign up and lend a hand on seasonal volunteer days.

### Follow Us

Tag us in your Facebook and Instagram posts with #shakervillageky. Check our blog and weekly emails for updates.

### Give

Your financial investment helps sustain Shaker Village for future generations to discover.



**A gift of any size  
has an impact.**